

Library

BOROUGH OF LEOMINSTER

Herefordshire



A N N U A L R E P O R T

on the
State of the Public Health
for the year 1952.

Staff of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health.	(I.F. MACKENZIE, M.D.(Edin), D.P.H., (D.T.M. & H., (Appointed 19th. August, 1952) (L.N. GOULD, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H., (Resigned 19th. August, 1952)
Sanitary Inspector.	A.S. SMITH, M.S.I.A., C.R.San.I., Cert. Meat and other Foods, Cert. C.I.S.,
Clerk.	G. PROSSER.

Mr. Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors,

The Annual Report for 1952 is presented herewith. It will be noted that, on this occasion, it has been duplicated in the office instead of being printed as hitherto. The cost of printing amounted to £17. 10. 0 last year; this year the report has been produced at an estimated saving to the rates of £15.

During the year, measles became prevalent throughout the Borough, the epidemic continuing into 1953 and producing 240 notifications. The last epidemic was in 1949 when 119 children were affected. There were two cases of Poliomyelitis; one being of the paralytic type.

Under the Food & Drugs Act, 1938, a survey of the food shops and restaurants was undertaken by your Sanitary Inspector and my predecessor and advice was given by them to enable purveyors of food to make their premises comply with regulations relating to hygiene and cleanliness. I am happy to be able to say that shop-keepers co-operated very well indeed. Your Sanitary Inspector and I plan to take the campaign further by making a special inspection of the hotels and public houses in the Borough, numbering approximately 30, during the ensuing year.

As members of the Housing Committee are already fully aware of the substantial number of houses which your officials regard as unfit for human habitation and which continue to be occupied; and as the provision of new houses in large numbers is rightly regarded by members of the Committee and, indeed, by all members of the Council, as our most urgent problem, there is no point in my reiterating what has already been said time and again in annual reports regarding housing. It will however be a source of deep regret to all of us if the continuing high cost of building keeps rents at such a level that persons whose financial resources are low, may be unable to accept new houses and thus be forced to continue to reside in slum property.

It will be seen from the section on Tuberculosis that seventeen new cases were notified during the year. This brings the number of cases on the Register to 63. The search for early cases among family contacts is now better organised. General Practitioners are taking advantage of the facilities for X-ray examination and for consultation,

and many more children whose general health is poor are having skin tests for Tuberculosis applied at our School Clinic. Though fresh cases are being brought to light in this way much earlier than before, as long as we have so many overcrowded substandard houses in the town we cannot but expect the incidence of this disease to continue higher than it is in more favoured districts.

It should be noted that the Borough Council and the Medical Officer of Health no longer possess any direct powers or duties in relation to Tuberculosis. Control of the disease devolves entirely on the County Council and on the Regional Hospital Board. Even the maintenance of a register of cases (which I still continue voluntarily) ceased to be a duty for us with the coming into operation of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1952. Nevertheless, we can and do give material assistance - indirectly, it is true - by re-housing persons to whom our attention is drawn by the Chest Physician on account of the possibility of other members of the family becoming infected with Tuberculosis.

I have been impressed by the friendly co-operative spirit existing among officials and by the confidence which you Mr. Mayor and the Members of the Council place in us, your officers, to carry out our duties conscientiously and impartially.

I.F. MACKENZIE.

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Office : 4, Church Street, Leominster.
Telephone No. Leominster 95.

SECTION A - STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in acres)	8,728
Population	6,126
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1952) according to the Rate Books)	1,770
Rateable Value	£37,639
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	£151. 2. 5d.

EXTRACT FROM THE VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR.

	Total	Male	Female
LIVE BIRTHS (Legitimate)	119	55	64
(Illegitimate)	4	2	2
Total	123	57	66
STILL BIRTHS (Legitimate)	1	1	-
(Illegitimate)	-	-	-
Total	1	1	Nil
DEATHS	75	41	34
DEATHS FROM PUERPERAL CAUSES	Nil		
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE (Legitimate)	5	3	2
(Illegitimate)	Nil		

COMPARABLE DATA FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, 1952.

Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population)	..	20.1
Birth Rate for England and Wales.	.. .. .	15.3
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population)		0.16
Still Birth Rate for England and Wales.	.. .. .	0.35
Death Rate (per 1,000 estimated mid-year home population)	..	12.2
Death Rate for England and Wales.	.. .. .	11.3
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 related live births)	..	40.7
Infant Mortality Rate for England and Wales.	.. .. .	27.6

SECTION B - GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

CLINICS.

Under the County Council and Regional Hospital Board schemes the following clinic facilities are available to residents in the district :-

SCHOOL HEALTH AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES

Minor Ailments Clinic	...	Monday and Friday, 10 to 11 a.m.
Orthopaedic Clinic	...	Tuesdays (By appointment)
Speech Therapy Clinic	...	Wednesdays (By appointment)
Child Psychology	...	Thursdays (By appointment)
Vaccination	...	1st. Friday of each month, 11 a.m.
Infant Welfare Clinic	...	Fridays, 2 to 4 p.m.
Dental Clinic	...	Fridays, 2 to 4 p.m.

All the above clinics and the Orthopaedic After-Care Clinic, which is organised on a voluntary basis, are held in the annexe at the Leominster Cottage Hospital.

Children are referred to the Ear Nose and Throat, Eye, Paediatric and Tuberculosis Clinics in Hereford as and when required.

WATER SUPPLIES.

The Borough's water supply is obtained from three wells, namely, Midsummer Meadow, Worcester Road and the Western Supply. It is collected at the pumping station, chlorinated, and pumped to the reservoir at Newlands. Chemical and bacteriological examination of the raw water supply reveals that it is usually remarkably pure.

I am indebted to Mr. A.S. Smith, Sanitary Inspector to the Council, for the following statement (Section C to E) furnished under the Sanitary Officers (Outside London) Regulations.

SECTION C. SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES AND INSPECTIONS.

PIPED WATER SUPPLIES (Public Water Mains)

- (1) The piped water supply of the area and of its several parts has in general been satisfactory (a) in quality (b) in quantity.

(2) BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS:

- (a) RAW WATER BEFORE TREATMENT - Twenty-six samples taken of which sixteen reported upon as satisfactory.

Number of samples taken in which Bact. Coli absent in 100 ml.	16
Percentage of samples in which Bact. Coli absent in 100 ml.	61.5%
Number of samples in which Bact. Coli found in 100 ml.	10

ANALYSES - RAW WATER BEFORE TREATMENT

Number of Coliform Bacilli in 100 ml.	Number of Samples	Observations
0	16	Very satisfactory or satisfactory.
1	1	Satisfactory.
1	1	No remarks.
1	1	Occasional coliform organisms of excretal origin.
2	1	Few coliform organisms not of excretal origin.
2	1	No remarks.
3	1	Few coliform organisms an occasional one being of excretal origin.
5	1	Few coliform organisms not of excretal origin. Satisfactory.
7	1	Moderate number of organisms of excretal origin.
25	1	Moderate number of coliform organisms not of excretal origin. Satisfactory.
90	1	Large number of coliform organisms many being of excretal origin.
Total ..	26	

- (b) WATER AFTER CHLORINATION - Eighty-nine samples taken of which eighty-one reported upon as satisfactory. Eight samples not up to standard expected of chlorinated supply.

Number of samples in which Bact. Coli absent in 100 ml.	81
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Percentage of samples in which Bact. Coli absent in 100 ml.	91%
Number of samples in which Bact. Coli found in 100 ml.	8

ANALYSES - WATER AFTER CHLORINATION.

Number of Coliform Bacilli in 100 ml.	Number of Samples	Observations
0	81	Very satisfactory or satisfactory.
1	1	Occasional coliform organisms of excretal origin.
1	4	Occasional coliform organisms not of excretal origin.
2	1	Few organisms of excretal origin.
5	1	Presence of some faecal organisms.
160	1	Large number of coliform organisms not of excretal origin.
Total ..	89	

CHEMICAL EXAMINATIONS:

Raw water before treatment - One sample taken and result appears to be satisfactory.

Water after Chlorination - One sample taken and result appears to be satisfactory.

- (3) No plumbo-solvent action - hard water.
- (4) Action in respect of any form of contamination - Immediate re-sampling. All re-samples reported upon as satisfactory.
- (5) Number of dwelling houses and population supplied from Public Water Mains:-
 - (a) Direct to houses 1,585 houses.
Approximate population 5,330
 - (b) By means of standpipes: 34 houses.
Approximate population 120

CHLORINATED PIPED WATER SUPPLIES

Public Water Mains

All houses in the Borough Proper have piped supplies of chlorinated water, and of approximately 354 occupied houses in the Out-parish area approximately 167 houses are supplied with piped chlorinated water.

Work commenced during the year on the construction of the Hyde Ash Water Main, a progressive measure which will further reduce the number of occupied houses relying on untreated individual shallow well-water supplies. The extension of the water main to Hyde Ash will make chlorinated water available to houses situated in areas known as Ivington Green, Cold Harbour, Hyde Ash and Dorstone.

SHALLOW WELLS or SPRING WATER SUPPLIES

The approximate number of houses relying on spring or well-water is as follows:

Out-parish	187
Approximate population ...	750

REMARKS

The following Out-parish areas are not provided with piped supplies:

Brierley, Elms Green, Stagbatch, Hyde Ash, Aulden and Wintercott, Stretford and Hennor, Wharton and Marlbrook.

In general the water supplies for houses in Out-parish areas are private shallow wells, usually unlined and of a type subject to contamination.

OPEN AIR SWIMMING BATH - Water samples taken direct from Bath.

ANALYSES

Number of Coliform Bacilli in 100 ml.	Number of Samples
0	28
Total	28

All water in the Swimming Bath is subject to treatment by special plant with ammonia and chlorino gas, and filtered through a high pressure sand filter prior to the return of water to shallow end of pool.

A complete turnover of water in the Swimming Bath takes place every four hours.

SAMPLES TAKEN and SUBMITTED FOR ANALYSES

(a) Piped supplies (House taps, Waterworks Well, Midsummer Meadow Well and Western Supply Well)	117
(b) Wells and Springs	24
(c) Swimming Bath (Bacteriological)	28

DRAINAGE and SEWERAGE

House Drains and other Buildings

Smoke, Colour and Water tests	3
New drains laid (Old premises)	9
Cleansed, trapped or ventilated	32
Inspection chambers built (old premises)	7
Septic tanks built or cleansed	7
Sinks installed	14

BOROUGH PROPER - Drainage of old premises is in the main poor, consisting usually of unjointed pipes, devoid of inspection chambers or ventilation shafts.

No BOROUGH sewage works exists and sewage disposal is to an open ditch.

Tenders for the reconstruction of the Ryelands Road Sewer are to be invited in conjunction with proposed sewerage works on the private enterprise section of the Westfield Walk Estate. The scheme is for a 15 in. sewer from the junction of Westfield Walk to Etnam Street. The existing sewer is loaded to capacity and is incapable of dealing with the additional flow which will result from the additional houses proposed to be erected on the Westfield Walk Estate.

OUT-PARISH - New houses drained to Septic Tanks.
Old houses generally feed to ditches.

Number of houses drained to sewer:

Borough Proper	..	..	1,424
Out-Parish	.	..	59

Number of houses not drained to sewer:

Borough Proper	..	..	28
Out-Parish	.	..	295

CLOSETS and BATHS

Additional closets provided (old houses and other buildings)	..	..	..	7
Conversion or renewals	..	..	..	2
Baths installed (old houses)	..	..	..	4

BOROUGH PROPER - Common usage of closets, usually by the occupants of two houses prevail in some cases. A type of closet existing is the long hopper with a wooden surround. As new houses come into being, and areas are cleared, common usages terminate.

OUT-PARISH - Pails and privy closets predominate.

RIVERS and STREAMS

No houses were flooded during the year under review.

REFUSE DISPOSAL

Tipping was continued at the Public Tip with satisfactory results. Treatment of the tip against rodents is carried out periodically.

The refuse collection service instituted in 1950 for the Out-Parish is proceeding satisfactorily. The whole of the Borough and the Out-Parish is now served by refuse collection vehicles. Collections take place weekly or fortnightly according to locality.

TENTS and CARAVANS

Camping does not exist on a large scale. No sites registered.

Number of caravans in Borough and Out-Parish	4
Visits	3

FACTORIES and WORKSHOPS

Factories Acts, 1937 and 1948

INSPECTIONS

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	13	1	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	68	28	2	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	10	10	-	-
TOTAL	91	39	2	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particualars	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	
			By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanli- ness (S.1)	6	5	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drain- age of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conven- iences (S.7)				
(a) Insufficient	1	1	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1	-	2
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-
TOTAL	9	7	-	2

COMMON LODGING HOUSES

None in the Borough or Out-Parish.

DIRTY or VERMINOUS PREMISES

Premises fumigated 3

DISINFECTION on account of INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Premises fumigated 5

Mode of disinfection - Formalin lamps and liquid spraying.

PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

The sewers received two treatments at certain manholes. Little evidence of rat infestation was found in the sewers. The Public Abattoir and Refuse Tip received periodic treatments:

SEWERS:

Number of manholes treated 17

Number of treatments 2

RODENT CONTROL

	Type of Property				
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses excluding combined dwelling business premises	Agricultural	All other including Business and Industrial	Total
I. Total number of properties in Local Authority's district	11	1,617	73	262	1,963
II. Number of properties inspected by the Local Authority during 1952 as a result (a) of Notification or (b) otherwise	(a) -	40	-	26	66
	(b) 8	11	73	165	257
III. Number of properties (under II) found to be infested with rats.	Major 2	2	9	5	18
	Minor 6	45	-	25	76
IV. Number of properties (under II) found to be seriously infested by mice	-	-	-	-	-
V. Number of infested properties (under III and IV) treated by the Local Authority.	8	47	-	30	85
VI. Number of Notices served under Section 4:					
(1) Treatment	-	-	-	-	-
(2) Structural Works (i.e. Proofing)	-	-	-	-	-

RODENT CONTROL (Continued)

	Type of Property				Total
	Local Authority	Dwelling houses excluding combined dwelling business premises	Agricultural	All other including Business and Industrial	
VII. Number of cases in which default action was taken by Local Authority following issue of Notice under Section 4.	-	-	-	-	-
VIII. Legal Proceedings	-	-	-	-	-
IX. Number of "block control" schemes carried out	7	-	-	-	7

SANITARY INSPECTION

TABLE SHOWING INSPECTIONS, ETC. CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR TOGETHER WITH THE ACTION TAKEN AND THE RESULTS.

Inspections, etc. under	Number	Informal Notices served	Statutory Notices served	Notices complied with
Housing (1936) Act	31	4	2	6
Housing (Public Health Acts) ..	252	65	21	55
Factories	29	2	-	1
Dairies	46	-	-	-
Milk Samples	40	2	-	2
Food Premises and Kitchens ..	114	20	-	15
Abattoir	936	-	-	-
Drains (Smoke, Colour & Water Tests)	3	-	-	-
Water Samples	169	4	-	3
Infectious Diseases	11	-	-	-
Rodent Control	341	9	-	9
Ice Cream Premises	56	-	-	-
Ice Cream Samples	56	1	-	1
Miscellaneous Visits (P.H. Act) ..	16	7	-	6
Pet Animals Act	2	-	-	-
Tents and Caravans	3	-	-	-
Dirty or Verminous Premises ..	12	1	-	1
Shops Act	11	-	-	-

Defects Remedied 190
Dustbins Renewed 63

SECTION D. HOUSING.

LIST OF APPLICANTS FOR ACCOMMODATION:

At the end of December, 1952, the number of live applications for Council houses was 381, against 347 at 31st. December, 1951, an increase of 34.

Classification of Applicants	Number in Family									Total Number of applications
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
In Borough and Out-Parish										
Number of families with separate home	10	23	42	39	13	4	2	2	1	136
Number of families without separate home	3	53	71	25	9	-	1	-	-	162
Outside Borough and Out-Parish										
Number of families with separate home	2	6	12	9	7	5	3	-	-	44
Number of families without separate home	1	8	14	12	3	-	-	-	1	39
Total family units	16	90	139	85	32	9	6	2	2	381

On survey of the housing application forms it was found that certain applicants indicated ability to pay as follows:

Classification	8/- to 12/-	13/- to 15/-	18/- to 20/-	23/- to 25/-	26/- to 31/-	31/6 and over	No rent stated
Families residing in Borough and Out-Parish	11	23	63	44	57	52	48
Families residing outside Borough and Out-Parish	3	3	9	10	26	11	21
Totals	14	26	72	54	83	63	69

CLEARANCE AREA HOUSES OCCUPIED at DECEMBER, 1952

The following 77 houses in Clearance Areas confirmed in 1937, 1938 and 1939 are still occupied:

Situation of Houses	No. of occupied houses.	Area No.	Date of confirmation of Order.
1/2, Pembers Court	2	17	5.8.37
14/16, School Lane	2	19	5.8.37
31,33,35,37, North Road	4	22	6.1.39

CLEARANCE AREA HOUSES OCCUPIED at DECEMBER, 1952 (Continued)

Situation of Houses	No. of occupied houses	Area No.	Date of confirmation of Order
Brought forward	8		
1/2 and 3, Lugg Court	2	25	23.11.38
123, 125, Bridge Street ..	2	26	23.11.38
109,111,113,115,117, Bridge Street	5	27	6.1.39
83,85,87,89,91,93, Bridge Street	6	28	6.1.39
53,55,57,59,61,63,65,67, Bridge Street	8	29	6.1.39
25, Etnam Street	1	30	23.11.38
7,9,11,13,15, Etnam Street ..	5	31	6.1.39
33,35,37,39,41,47,49, Bridge Street	7	32	6.1.39
1,2,3, Sydney Gardens	3	32	6.1.39
1,3, Bridge Street	2	33	23.11.38
4,6,8, Vicarage Street . . .	3	34	23.11.38
10,12,14, Vicarage Street ..	3	35	6.1.39
30,32,34,36,38, Vicarage Street	5	36	23.11.38
1/2, 3,4, Cranes Court . . .	3	37	6.1.39
52,54, Etnam Street	2	38	23.11.38
47,49, South Street	2	44	23.11.38
7,9, Bargates	2	46	6.1.39
1,2,3, Ginhall Lane	3	47	6.1.39
1,2,3, Rose Tree Cottages, Ebnal	3)		
1/2, Bedford Cottages, Ebnal .	2)	49	6.1.39
Total ...	77		

The following 3 houses situate in Clearance Areas confirmed are unoccupied but not demolished:

1, Lowes Court, Bridge Street ..	-	28	6.1.39
65a, Bridge Street	-	29	6.1.39
27, Etnam Street	-	30	23.11.38

The following Clearance Area houses have been demolished during the year:

43,45, Bridge Street	-	32	6.1.39
1 and 2, Hintons Court . . .	-	24	6.1.39

In addition to the Clearance Areas houses several hundred houses are sub-standard and fall within Category 5. No apparent impressive demand exists for post-war council houses from tenants of sub-standard houses due probably to the low rural type rents prevailing for tenanted privately owned houses in contrast to the higher rents of new council houses.

Habitation of the relatively inferior slum houses as distinct from the modern council houses can scarcely remain indefinitely. On the other hand, elimination of the inferior conditions would appear to be a long way off unless the output of new council houses is stepped up considerably, and some easement effected in transition from a low controlled rent for a slum house to a reasonable rent for a new house

The problem, therefore, of the slum or sub-standard houses, and ultimate re-housing of the occupants, remains.

PRIVATE ENTERPRISE HOUSING

Eight privately built houses were completed and occupied during the year:

Borough Proper	New Street ..	1
	Aldermans Meadows	1
Out-Parish	Camp Road ..	4
	Barons Cross Road	1
	Stookenhill Road	1
	Total	<u>8</u>

WESTFIELD WALK (Private Enterprise Section)

No development took place on the Council's land known as Private Enterprise Section, Westfield Walk Estate. Construction of road works and water mains is expected to proceed in 1953. The Council's Scheme to sell plots of land for enterprise development has been approved of in principle.

WESTFIELD WALK ESTATE (Council Houses)

The Westfield Walk Estate comprises at the present time:

- (a) Westfield Walk.
- (b) West Croft.
- (c) Sandpits.
- (d) Pump Piece.

with a total of 54 inhabited post-war Council houses all traditional type. Development of a further 44 traditional type houses is anticipated for 1953.

GATEWAY LANE ESTATE

Development Twenty-four Cornish Unit Type houses are in course of construction in the area known as George Street. These houses will be in close proximity to the new Infants School at present in course of erection, and will enlarge in a convenient way the existing Council Estate.

Gateway Lane Estate comprises the following:

- (a) George Street.
- (b) Churchill Avenue.
- (c) Croft Street.
- (d) Wigmores Street.
- (e) Mortimer Street.
- (f) Mortimer Place.
- (g) Holland Road.

The number of inhabited Council houses on the Gateway Lane Estate is 184.

AGED PERSONS DWELLINGS

Tenders for the erection of 8 bungalows on land in Mortimer Street are under review.

FUTURE HOUSING SITES - 3 year Programme

Land in Cranes Lane and New Street with an approximate acreage of $2\frac{1}{2}$, and capable of taking 26 houses has been inspected.

ERECTED HOUSES - Borough and Out-Parish

The number of houses completed and occupied during the year is as follows:-

COUNCIL HOUSES

Permanent - Brick. Borough .. 10

PRIVATELY BUILT

Permanent	Borough .	2
	Out-Parish	6
		<u>18</u>

The present housing position is approximately as follows:-

	C A T E G O R I E S					Total
	1	2	3	4	5	
Number of occupied privately owned premises (residential, working class flats or rooms over shops)	695	232	51	9	454	1,441
Number of Council houses occupied	360	-	-	-	5	365
Number of derelict void houses not demolished	-	-	-	-	10	10
	1,055	232	51	9	469	1,816

Category	1	-	Satisfactory.
"	2	-	Minor defects.
"	3	-	Requiring repair, structural alteration or improvement.
"	4	-	Appropriate for re-conditioning.
"	5	-	Requiring demolition and replacement.

Approximately 50% of the privately owned houses have no fixed baths.

VOID HOUSES DEMOLISHED DURING THE YEAR . 5

UNDERTAKINGS ACCEPTED UNDER SECTION 11,
HOUSING ACT, 1936 1

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR:

- | | | |
|--------|--|-----|
| 1. (a) | Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health and Housing Acts | 110 |
| (b) | Number of inspections made for the purpose | 283 |
| 2. | Number of houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation | 18 |

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY NOTICES DURING THE YEAR:

Proceedings under Public Health Act:

- | | | |
|----|---|----|
| 1. | Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied .. | 14 |
|----|---|----|

2. Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices:-

(a) By owners	8
(b) By Local Authority in default of owner	-
Van dwellings	-

STATISTICS RELATING TO COUNCIL HOUSES

	Built Pre-1939	Built Post-war 1947 - 52	Old Houses Acquired	Total
Caswell Estate				
Caswell Terrace .. .	8	-	-	8
Caswell Crescent .. .	28	-	-	28
Caswell Road .. .	54	-	-	54
Worcester Road .. .	8	-	-	8
Gateway Lane Estate				
Croft Street .. .	43	4	-	47
Churchill Avenue .. .	-	42	-	42
George Street .. .	-	2	-	2
Mortimer Street .. .	39	-	-	39
Mortimer Place .. .	2	-	-	2
Holland Road .. .	6	20 e	-	26
Wigmore Street .. .	10	16 m	-	26
Westfield Estate				
Westfield Walk .. .	-	9	-	9
West Croft .. .	-	16	1	17
Sandpits .. .	-	19	-	19
Pump Piece .. .	-	10	-	10
Individual Areas				
Cranes Lane .. .	6	-	-	6
Rainbow Street .. .	6	-	-	6
Out-Parish Estate				
Hengrave Green, Ivington	-	12 m	-	12
Old Houses Acquired				
Bargates .. .	-	-	3	3
Dishley Street .. .	-	-	1	1
	210	150	5	365

e Temporary prefabricated bungalows.

m Permanent prefabricated houses (Airey Type).

NOTE:- Although the Caswell Estate generates of good appearance and standard, sight should not be lost of the fact that the houses on this estate are not provided with running hot water circulatory systems to baths, wash-basins and sinks.

According to type some houses have bathrooms, and some unenclosed fixed baths in the ground floor sculleries wherein domestic cooking and washing takes place. The prevailing hot water systems are of the manual type consisting of brick washing coppers with coal fired furnaces beneath in combination with rotary pumps for pumping water from the coppers into the fixed baths or to bathrooms.

The six council houses in Rainbow Street are not provided with bathrooms or fixed baths. The provision of fixed baths, or additions in the nature of bathrooms, with hot and cold water Circulatory Systems, would be an advantage, and moreover would bring the houses up to the general amenity standard usual to Council Estates.

SECTION E. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

1. MILK SUPPLY

- (1) Routine inspection of dairies.
- (2) Collection of samples of designated and non-designated milk for analysis
 - (a) Examination for bacterial clearliness and heat treatment - Samples sent to County Laboratory, Hereford.
 - (b) Examination for Tubercle Bacilli, etc. - Samples sent to Pathological Department, Worcester Royal Infirmary.
- (3) A large portion of milk supplies retailed in the district is designated milk and mainly pasteurised.

2. NUMBER OF SAMPLES TAKEN

Tuberculin Tested Milk	..	..	..	7
Pasteurised Milk	..	..	..	30
Ordinary Milk	..	..	..	3

TUBERCULIN TESTED MILK

Analyses of Samples

<u>Methylene Blue Test</u>	<u>Number of Samples</u>
Not decolourised in $4\frac{1}{2}$ / $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours	5
Decolourised in 4 hours	1
Number of samples taken	<u>6</u>

NOTE:- To comply with the Milk (Special Designation)(Raw Milk) Regulations, 1949, Tuberculin Tested Milk must not decolourise methylene blue within $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours if the sample is taken from 1st. May to 31st. October, or within $5\frac{1}{2}$ hours if taken from 1st. November to 30th. April.

PASTEURISED MILK

Analyses of Samples

Number of samples taken	<u>Phosphatase Test</u>		<u>Methylene Blue Test</u>		No. of satisfactory samples
	No. of samples giving a reading of less than 2.3 Lovibond Blue Units	No. of samples giving a reading of more than 2.3 Lovibond Blue Units	No. of samples not decolourised in 30 mins.	No. of samples decolourised in 30 mins.	
18	15	3	18	Nil	15

TUBERCULIN TESTED PASTEURISED MILK

Analyses of Samples

Number of samples taken	Phosphatase Test		Methylene Blue Test		No. of satisfactory samples
	No. of samples giving a reading of less than 2.3 Lovibond Blue Units	No. of samples giving a reading of more than 2.3 Lovibond Blue Units	No. of samples not decolourised in 30 mins.	No. of samples decolourised in 30 mins.	
12	12	Nil	12	Nil	12

NOTE:- To comply with the Milk (Special Designation) (Pasteurised and Sterilised Milk) Regulations, 1949, Tuberculin Tested (Pasteurised) and Pasteurised Milk must not give a reading of more than 2.3 Lovibond Blue Units in the Phosphatase Test, and must not decolourise methylene blue in 30 minutes after storage in the laboratory at atmospheric shade temperature not exceeding 65 deg. F. until between 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. on the day following that on which the sample was collected.

ORDINARY MILK

Analyses of Samples - Chemical Test

Methylene Blue Test				Number of Samples
Decolourised in 5 hours	..	..	..	1
Decolourised in 4½ "	..	..	..	1
Number of samples taken				2

NOTE:- No standard is laid down for non-designated milk.

Analyses of Samples - Biological Test

	Number of Samples
UNDESIGNATED MILK. No sign of infection with M. Tuberculosis or Br. Abortus.	1
TUBERCULIN TESTED MILK. No sign of infection with M. Tuberculosis or Br. Abortus.	1
Number of samples taken	2

3. FOOD PREMISES, etc.

There are no food factories in the area, other than retail shops, warehouses, bakehouses, restaurants and hotel kitchens.

Routine inspections for cleanliness are carried out from time to time. Byelaws under Section 15 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1938, came into operation on the 1st. January, 1952, and the following improvements in food premises have been effected:

Glass stands to counters	..	13	premises
Flour chutes covered	..	2	"
Repairs, redecorations and cleansing	.. ..	13	"

Sinks / hot water	8 premises
Refrigerators installed	6 "
Decrepit buildings demolished ..	1 "
Improved closet accommodation ..	2 "
New cereal bins	1 "

No open stalls exist for the sale of meat or unwrapped meat products.

ICE CREAM

The following prevails :-

- (1) No ice cream manufacturing premises in operation in the district.
- (2) All retail premises have electric continuous freezers.
- (3) Routine collection of samples for analyses from time to time.
 - (a) Examination for bacterial cleanliness - Samples sent to Laboratory, Hereford.

The following tables show the number of Ice Cream samples taken, analyses and Grades:

Methylene Blue Test		Number of samples	Provisional Grades	Number of samples
Not decolourised at the end of 4½ hours		3	Number of samples falling in :-	
Not decolourised at the end of 4 hours		22	Grade 1	25
Decolourised immediately .		1	" 2	20
" in ½ hour .		2	" 3	10
" " 1½ hours		5	" 4	1
" " 2 "		3		
" " 2½ "		5		
" " 3 "		4		
" " 3½ "		7		
" " 4 "		4		
Total samples taken		56	Total samples	
			56	

NOTE:- Owing to the numerous factors governing the hygienic quality of ice-cream it is unwise to pay too much attention to the bacteriological results of any single sample. Judgment should be based rather on a series of samples over a six monthly period. 50% of vendors' samples should fall into Grade 1, 80% into Grades 1 or 2, not more than 20% into Grade 3, and none into Grade 4.

It will be observed from the above tables that one vendors' sample only fell within Grade 4.

MEAT

Meat Inspection (Public Abattoir) - Centralised slaughtering under the Ministry of Food Scheme of control is in operation. Areas served are Leominster Borough, Leominster and Wigmore Rural District, Kington Urban and Rural Districts, and Weobley Rural District. Inspection is carried out by your Sanitary Inspector who is a qualified Meat Inspector.

The undernoted were slaughtered and inspected during the year:-

<u>CATTLE</u> <u>excluding cows</u>	<u>COWS</u>	<u>PIGS</u>	<u>LAMBS</u> <u>SHEEP</u>	<u>CALVES</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
887	345	1,163	4,608	564	7,567

The figures are inclusive of the following dressed or partly dressed carcasses received :-

3 Beasts.	56 Sheep.
11 Pigs.	1 Calf

Diseased Meat discovered and dealt with :-

All Diseases except Tuberculosis

	<u>Beasts</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Calves</u>
Whole carcasses condemned	41	32	151	31
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	396	203	566	12
Percentage of number affected with diseases other than Tuberculosis	35.5%	20.2%	15.5%	7.6%

Tuberculosis Only

	<u>Beasts</u>	<u>Pigs</u>	<u>Sheep</u>	<u>Calves</u>
Whole carcasses condemned	9	1	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	47	29	-	-
Percentage of number affected with Tuberculosis	4.5%	2.6%	-	-
Weight of diseased meat discovered and dealt with	32,600	4,533	9,492	1,704 lbs.

TOTAL : 28 tons, 11 cwt, 2 qrs, 1 lb.

The percentage figures show the proportion of food animals found diseased.

METHOD OF MEAT INSPECTION - In accordance with Ministry of Health Memorandum 62 (Foods) with certain relaxations.

Memo 3/Meat - Ministry of Food - has been adopted in substitution for Memo 62/Foods, and will operate from 1st. February, 1953.

ABATTOIR

The main building was built in 1877 and comprises :

- (a) Central lairage accommodation.
- (b) 4 separate slaughtering bays (2 north and 2 south of the central lairage accommodation).
- (c) Boiler house.
- (d) Condemned meat room.

The Abattoir is, by modern standards, out of date, but could readily be adapted to meet modern requirements and to take three to four times the present intake of animals.

True hygienic output of carcasses cannot be performed as the present internal arrangements of the abattoir building require reconstruction and improvement. The building is not equipped with suitable overhead runways, hanging or bleeding rails, and there is no cooling room, into which dressed carcasses can be removed. Dressed carcasses hang in the actual slaughtering sections whilst work is in progress

ANTE-MORTEM and POST-MORTEM INSPECTIONS

It is not possible for your Inspector, owing to other duties, to be present at the abattoir at the times of incoming of animals for slaughter, or at all times when slaughtering is in progress, and consequently, no regular ante-mortem inspection before slaughter, or post-mortem at the time of slaughter is possible. Inspection, however, of all carcasses and organs is carried out several times daily, including evenings and week-ends

OTHER FOODS

The undernoted foods were surrendered during the year :-

2 tins Corned Beef (12 lbs.); 57 tins Canned Meats; 154 tins Fruit; 2 jars Fruit; 36 tins Vegetables; 18 tins Fish; 1 tin Jam; 24 tins Milk; 6 tins Ham (96 lbs.); 8 $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs. Ham; 2 tins Sausages; 44 lbs. Sausages; 8 lbs. Bacon; 7 boxes Biscuits; 15 boxes Processed Cheese.

Released for Salvage: 33 $\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. Butter; 14 bags Flour; 14 cwts. Sugar; 10 boxes Dried Fruit.

RAG, FLOCK and OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT, 1951

Registration of Premises

There are no premises in the Borough used for manufacturing bedding, toys, baby carriages or other articles of upholstery.

Licensing of Premises

There are no premises where rag flock is (a) manufactured or (b) stored for distribution to registered premises.

SECTION F - PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

ANALYSES OF TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES ACCORDING TO AGE

Disease	Age of Patient								TOTAL
	0-1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25 & Over	Unknown	
Searlet Fever	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	-	2
Whooping Cough	1	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	3
Acute Poliomyelitis (Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic)	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	1
Measles	6	45	71	111	3	1	2	-	239
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	2
Dysentery	1	-	1	3	-	-	2	-	7
Food Poisoning	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1

FOOD POISONING

One case of Food Poisoning was notified following the removal of the patient to hospital. The organism responsible was identified as *Salmonella enteritidis* var. jena. Investigation did not reveal the food causing this isolated case.

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION

The following figures are presented through information supplied by the County Medical Officer.

Number of children who completed a full course of primary immunisation and number who received a secondary (reinforcing) injection subsequent to primary immunisation at an earlier age, during the 12 months ended 31st. December, 1952.

Age at date of final injection.				Reinforcing injections.
Under 1	1-4	5-14	Total	
35	33	51	119	148

The Registrar General regrets that owing to a reduction in the sources of information available for estimating local populations under 15 years of age for County Districts, it will no longer be possible to supply estimates of such populations.

Population figures under 15 have been supplied in the past mainly to provide a basis for estimating the proportion of the child population in the area which had been immunised against diphtheria.

TUBERCULOSIS

At the end of 1952 the Tuberculosis Register contained the names of thirty-three males and thirty females who normally reside within the Borough.

During the year, seventeen new cases were notified, all on account of Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

During the same period one death of a person suffering from Tuberculosis occurred, one recovered and one left the district.

CAUSES OF DEATH (all ages)

Disease	Males	Females	Total
1. Tuberculosis, Respiratory	-	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-
3. Syphilitic disease	-	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-	-
6. Meningococcal infections	-	-	-
7. Acute poliomyelitis	-	-	-
8. Measles	-	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	-	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .	2	-	2
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-	-
14. Other malignant & lymphatic neoplasms	5	6	11
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	-	1
16. Diabetes	-	-	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system .	4	1	5
18. Coronary disease, angina	7	-	7
19. Hypertension with heart disease ...	1	1	2
20. Other heart disease	7	12	19
21. Other circulatory disease	1	3	4
22. Influenza	-	-	-
23. Pneumonia	1	2	3
24. Bronchitis	1	1	2
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-	-
26. Ulcer of stomach and duodenum ...	-	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .	-	-	-
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	2	-	2
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	1	-	1
30. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion ...	-	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	6	7	13
33. Motor vehicle accidents	-	-	-
34. All other accidents	1	-	1
35. Suicide	-	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war ...	-	-	-

All causes

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